

THE AMERICAN ROLE

No Iranian could easily swallow dismissals of native dignitaries b"* a foreigner. Millspaugh aroused a tempest of violent criticism against himself, criticism which came from every side, not only Communist.

The generally moderate *Xeda-yi-Adalat*, organ of the ^airy often reflecting the opinions of Iranian bureaucracy, new began a campaign against Millspaugh and asked the government 10 dismiss him. On January 14, 1945, the paper went so far as to demand public prosecution and trial for the whole American Economic Mission.

This campaign was not without effects. In January. 19.15, the Majlis deprived Dr. Millspaugh of his economic pov.'ers, leading to him only the financial administration. Following this aciion the government created a new organ called the Economic Committee, subject to the authority of the cabinet. The committee was composed of Iranians only and was entrusted with the supreme direc- tion of economic life in the country. Dr. Millspaugh was unwilling to continue in office under such conditions; in February he re- signed. Some members of his mission tollowed suit, but many re- mained in Iran in an advisory capacity. Thus ended, rather sadly, the third American financial mission to Iran.⁸

It should be pointed out that, even among the Iranians, certain elements endeavored to defend Millspaugh. The daily *Setareh* per- sistently argued in favor of the mission, stressing its merits and achievements. Seyyid Zia ed-Din and some of his papers also coura- geously sided with Millspaugh, On December 12, 1944, *Ra'd-i-Emruz* wTote a dramatic article in defense of the mission entitled, "Is It Not Treason to Deprive Dr. Millspaugh of His Powers

Immediately?*' read:

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If Dr. Millspaugh leaves us, his departure will be followed by immediate collapse of our economy. . . . Millspaugh's enemies demand his departure from Iran, but nobody has any idea what to do next. No one can give a guarantee that after his departure the economic situation of Iran will not be worse. Those who attack Dr. Millspaugh either play with the whole problem, or are completely ignorant,, or else have instructions from foreign sources purposely to cause disorder and disorganization in the

s Dr. Millspaugh's case is forcefully presented in his book *Americans in Persia* (Washington, 1946).

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